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Shouwa Genroku Chapter 11

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SHOUWA GENROKU RAKUGO SHINJUU

YAKUMO AND SUKEROKU ARC

HARUKO KUMOTA

RECAP

YOTARO WANDERING ARC

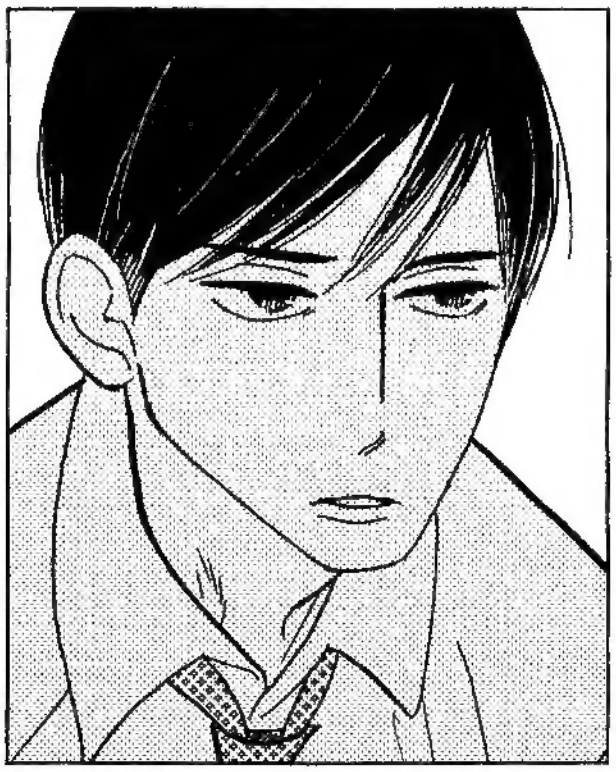
YOTARO BECAME FASCINATED WITH YURAKUTEI YAKUMO'S RAKUGO AFTER HEARING HIS PERFORMANCE IN PRISON.
UPON HIS RELEASE, YOTARO GOT MASTER YAKUMO TO TAKE HIM IN AS AN APPRENTICE, AND HE BECAME A ZENZA.
YOTARO GREW MORE AND MORE INTERESTED IN RAKUGO.
AROUND THIS TIME, YOTARO FOUND HIMSELF OBSESSED WITH THE BRILLIANT RAKUGO LEFT BEHIND BY THE LONG DECEASED SUKEROKU.
DURING HIS MASTER'S SOLO PERFORMANCE, YOTARO MADE AN UNFORGIVABLE BLUNDER. MASTER YAKUMO THREATENED TO KICK HIM OUT, BUT, FACED WITH YOTARO'S CONTINUED PLEADING, HE PUT FORWARD THREE PROMISES TO YOTARO FOR HIM TO KEEP. THEN, HE STARTED TO TELL YOTARO THE STORY OF A PROMISE HE'D MADE WITH SUKEROKU...

YAKUMO AND SUKEROKU ARC

KIKUHIKO AND HATSUTARO BOTH BEGAN THEIR APPRENTICESHIPS WITH THE 7TH GENERATION YURAKUTEI YAKUMO ON THE SAME DAY.
THE TWO, WITH OPPOSITE PERSONALITIES, GREW BESIDE THEIR MASTER AS THEY CONTINUED TO STUDY RAKUGO.

AFTER THE WAR ENDED, HATSUTARO BECAME EXHILARATED AS HE CLAIMED THE AGE OF RAKUGO HAD FINALLY COME.

CHARACTERS



KIKUHIKO

EIGHTH GENERATION YURAKUTEI YAKUMO'S STAGE NAME WHEN HE WAS A FUTATSUME. HE IS ENCOUNTERING DIFFICULTY IMPROVING HIS TECHNIQUE.

YAKUMO AND SUKEROKU ARC

KONATSU

SUKEROKU'S DAUGHTER. SHE WAS ADOPTED BY YAKUMO.

YURAKUTEI SUKEROKU

HAILED AS A RARE GENIUS. HE WAS A LEGENDARY RAKUGOKA WHO PASSED AWAY.

MATSUDA-SAN

DOMESTIC HELPER AND DRIVER FOR THE PREVIOUS AND CURRENT MASTERS.

YOTARO WANDERING ARC

YURAKUTEI YAKUMO (EIGHTH GENERATION)

HIS NAME IS KNOWN FAR AND WIDE. HE IS SHOUWA'S LAST REMAINING FAMED RAKUGOKA.

YOTARO (KYOJI)

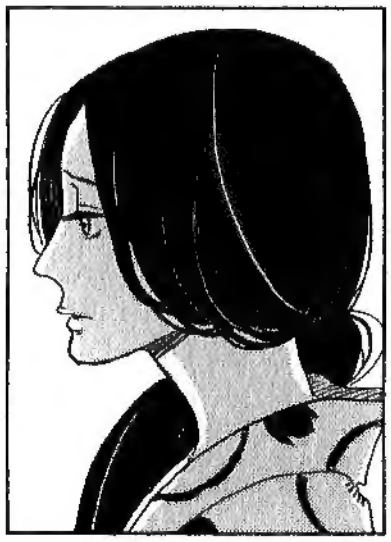
BECAME MASTER YAKUMO'S APPRENTICE. HE USED TO BE A GANGSTER.

HATSUTARO, WHO TOOK PRIDE IN HIS OWN RAKUGO, BECAME THE CENTER OF ATTENTION AMONG THE FUTATSUME AND TOOK UP A NEW NAME, SUKEROKU.
MEANWHILE, KIKUHIKO STRUGGLED TO DISCOVER HIS OWN STYLE AND BEGAN TO SPEND HIS DAYS BEING COMFORTED BY THE GEISHA, MIYOKICHI.

THEN, IN THE 'SHIKA-SHIBAI' PUT ON BY THE YOUNGSTERS, KIKUHIKO'S PERFORMANCE OF BENTENKOZO RIVETED THE AUDIENCE.
AS KIKUHIKO SENSED THE HEAT OF AUDIENCE, HE UNDERSTOOD THAT HIS ART WAS SOMETHING THAT HE HAD TO DEFINE FOR HIMSELF.
THE TWO OF THEM, BEING RISING STARS, WERE BOTH PROMOTED TO SHINUCHI.
KIKUHIKO DECIDED TO DEDICATE HIS LIFE TO RAKUGO AND TO PART WAYS WITH MIYOKICHI.

MEANWHILE, SUKEROKU AND HIS MASTER GOT INTO AN ARGUMENT OVER THE FUTURE OF RAKUGO, AND AS A RESULT, HIS MASTER DECLARED THAT KIKUHIKO WOULD INHERIT THE YAKUMO NAME.
SUKEROKU LAID HANDS ON HIS OWN MASTER FOR DESTROYING HIS DREAM, WHICH GOT HIM EXPELLED FROM YURAKUTEI.

WHAT WILL BE THE FATE OF THESE TWO RAKUGO-ENGROSSED MEN?!
FURTHERMORE, WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN KIKUHIKO, MIYOKICHI AND SUKEROKU?!

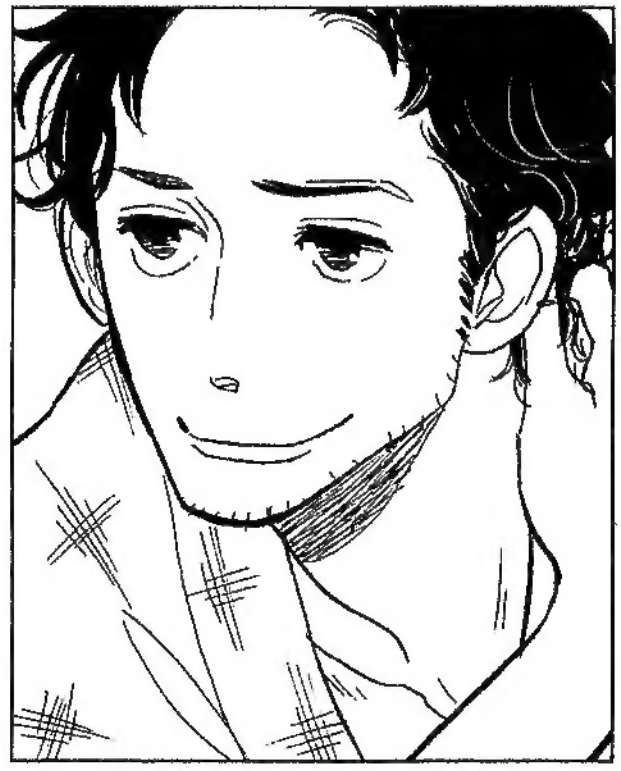


MIYOKICHI

KONATSU'S MOTHER.
WORKS AS A GEISHA.

YURAKUTEI YAKUMO (SEVENTH GENERATION)

MASTER OF KIKUHIKO AND SUKEROKU.



SUKEROKU

CHANGED HIS STAGE NAME FROM "HATSUTARO" TO "SUKEROKU". GRADUALLY CAME INTO THE SPOTLIGHT DURING THE FUTATSUME ERA. HE'S A POPULAR CHARACTER AT THE THEATRE.

SHOUWA GENROKU RAKUGO SHINJUU

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YAKUMO AND SUKEROKU ARC

Yakumo and Sukeroku Arc Chapter Six

SHOUWA GENROKU RAKUGO SHINJUU

WHAT?

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO SMILE WHEN I'M NOT HAVING FUN?

KIKU-SAN,

COULD YOU MAYBE SMILE A LITTLE?

SNAP

OI, OI. YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A RAKUGOKA, RIGHT?

I'M TIRED.

JUST TAKE THE PHOTO ALREADY.

Hmph!

SNAP

HELLO THERE, MASTER!

CONGRAT-ULATIONS ON THE PACKED HOUSE AGAIN TODAY!

FULL HOUSE

I MEAN, SERIOUSLY, IT'S BEEN A GREAT SUCCESS. ONE COULD SAY THAT YOU ALREADY HAVE THE ENTIRE COUNTRY IN YOUR HANDS.

TODAY'S PERFORMANCES

YURAKUTEI KIKUHIKO

SOLO RECITAL

WELL, WELL. I DID INTERVIEW YOU SEVERAL TIMES IN THE PAST. WELL, NONETHELESS, PLEASE EXCUSE MY LACK OF MANNERS. MY NAME IS AMANO AND I'M A LITERARY CRITIC.

MY SON HERE IS YOUR BIGGEST FAN, MASTER...

THAT'S ENOUGH.

WELL WELL WELL WELL.

WELL WELL.

AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE?

KIDS AREN'T ALLOWED IN THE DRESSING ROOM.

FLICK...

OKAY.

OKAY,

LET'S START THE INTERVIEW.

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT. WITHOUT FURTHER ADO,

I HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL.

CONSIDERING THAT YOU'VE SURELY BECOME A LOT MORE CONFIDENT FROM YOUR CONTINUING SUCCESS.

MASTER KIKUHIKO, AS A NEW SHINUCHI, HAVE YOUR FEELINGS CHANGED FROM WHEN YOU WERE A FUTATSUME?

...LIKE YOU AROUND ME, THAT'S ALL.

WHAT **HAS** CHANGED IS THAT I HAVE A LOT MORE PEOPLE...

I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO ME...

...AS LONG AS I CAN PERFORM MY OWN RAKUGO.

Huh...

WELL, THAT'S WHAT I'D EXPECT OF A MASTER!

YOU'RE DEFINITELY A GENIUS, I GUARANTEE THAT.

YOUR RAKUGO IS A WORK OF ART.

TO HAVE SUCH A HIGH-LEVEL TRADITIONAL PERFORMER IN THIS TUMULTUOUS GENERATION...

...AND AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE AS WELL. THAT ALONE MAKES YOU SO MUCH MORE PRECIOUS.

Report

SUKE-ROKU-KUN, YES?

SUCH A SHAME ABOUT HIM.

BUT YOU COULD SAY THERE WAS NOTHING THAT COULD'VE BEEN DONE.

IF YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT MY GEN-ERATION,

THERE SHOULD BE ANOTHER IDIOT DOING SOMETHING, SOMEWHERE.

Flick...

HE CERTAINLY WAS POPULAR, BUT THAT WAS ABOUT IT.

EITHER WAY, HIS FALL HAPPENED...

...IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE...

IF IT'S REALLY THE CASE THAT HE WAS EXPELLED FOR DISOBEYING HIS MASTER,

THEN IT'S LIKELY THAT THE ASSOCIATION REVOKED HIS TITLE AND HE WON'T BE ALLOWED TO PERFORM IN ANY THEATRE.

HIS STYLE OF RAKUGO WAS AN ACQUIRED TASTE. SO MUCH SO THAT YOU COULD SAY THAT IT WASN'T ACTUALLY ALL THAT GOOD.

IT WAS ALL FORCE AND FAST-TALKING, AND RELIED SOLELY ON THE AUDIENCE'S MOOD FOR ITS MOMENTUM.

THAT KIND OF RAKUGO IS JUST TRYING TO GET LAUGHS.

IS IT EVEN POSSIBLE TO CALL WHAT HE DID RAKUGO?

GRUMBLE

GRUMBLE

GRUMBLE

I CERTAINLY CAN'T...

PLEASE CONTINUE PROTECTING TRADITIONAL RAKUGO,

MASTER!

I'M VERY SORRY,

BUT I MUST ASK YOU TO LEAVE.

#1 in Japan

I'M NOT WILLING TO CONTINUE TALKING TO SOMEONE...

...WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO PERFORM.

There's a word called 'Maotoko',

Which refers to a man who cuckholds another man...

WELL, HELLO.

THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT TURNOUT TODAY.

Snap

What's the matter, Shin-san? You look so pale .

SLIP..

Did something happen...?

Oh no... my husband's home!

Hey, open up!

Aah, crap! I left my wallet behind!

What did I tell you...

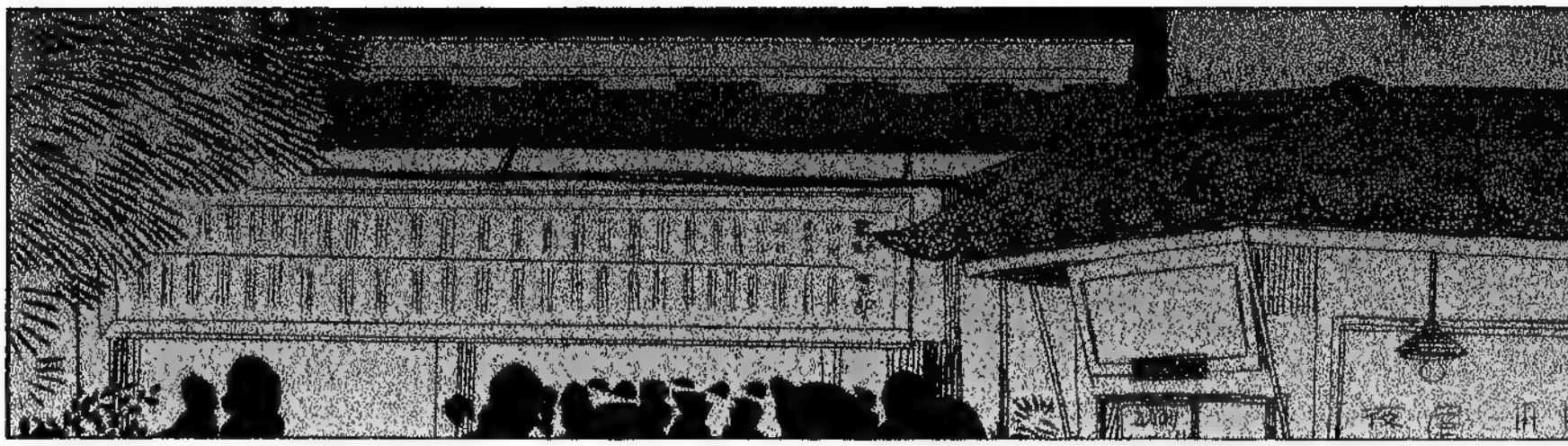
You're so stubbornly naive. Do you just bring young men over while your husband is away? Is that how a wife is **supposed** to behave?

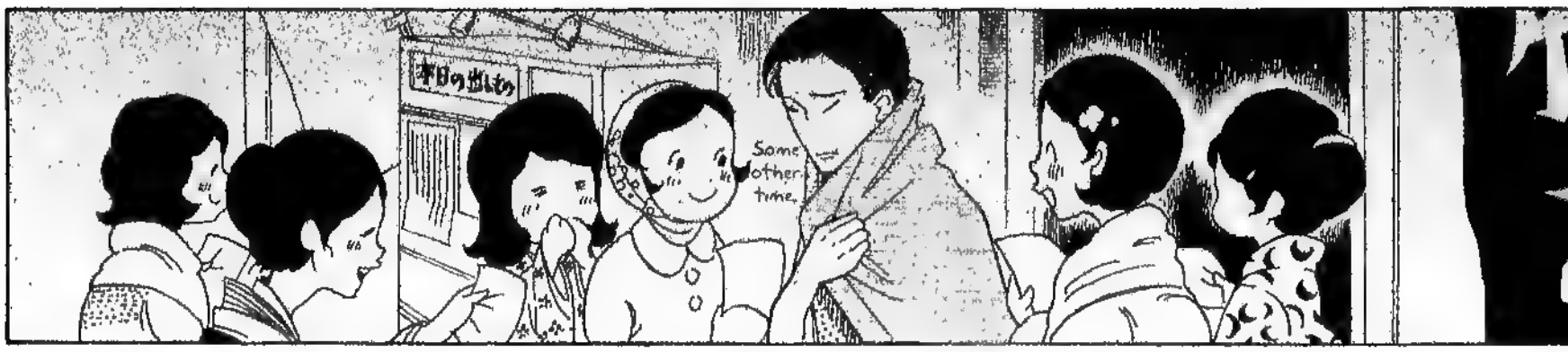
...Oh, is that so. I didn't think you were the kind of person who'd do such a thing, Shin-san...

HE'S HERE.

WELL NOW...

How appalling.




Some other time.

IT'S EVEN BETTER WHEN I'M INDEBTED TO THAT PERSON.
WHAT?
YOU SURE HAVE A GOOD SENSE OF SMELL.

WAAAIT!

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? HAVE YOU BEEN PERFORMING FOR ME?

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH I'VE HAD TO COVER FOR YOU IN YOUR ABSENCE?

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

YES! THANKFULLY, I WAS ABLE TO.

JUST LEAVING EVERYTHING BEHIND...

THANKS.

HMPH

I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO DO THAT, BUT...

I GET WHAT IT MEANS TO BE EXPELLED NOW.

DAMN IT. THOSE GUYS FROM THE ASSOCIATION TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO START HARASSING ME.

WHY ARE YOU BEHAVING SO CHILD-ISHLY...?

I CAN'T BREATHE IN THIS TINY INDUSTRY.

I'M GOING TO LOSE MY MIND IF PEOPLE KEEP CALLING ME A HOPELESS CASE.

EVERYONE'S EITHER BERATING ME OR SYMPATHIZING WITH ME.

NO WAY IN HELL! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG!

IF YOU APOLOGIZE...

YOU KNOW HOW OUR MASTER IS...

I KNOW THERE'S NO WAY YOU'D WILLINGLY STOP PERFORMING RAKUGO.

YOU SHOULD JUST TAKE SOME TIME TO CALM DOWN.

OH WELL.

I'M SORRY.

CAN'T YOU EVEN TELL ME?

WHAT CAUSED THE FIGHT BETWEEN YOU TWO?

JUST A COINCIDENCE.

DID YOU KNOW I WAS THERE?

THAT WEIRD STORY YOU PERFORMED...

Stop playing, Shin-sang, Shin-san.

I KNOW YOU DIDN'T ENJOY IT.

THEN WHY DID YOU COME TO MY RECITAL IN THE FIRST PLACE?

I **KNEW** YOU WERE STILL YEARNING FOR RAKUGO.

IT'S NICE TO WATCH RAKUGO LIKE THAT ONCE IN A WHILE.

IT WAS MY FIRST TIME WATCHING YOU FROM THE AUDIENCE,

BUT I HAVE TO SAY THAT EVEN THOUGH YOUR RAKUGO WAS A LITTLE DEPRESSING, IT WAS A POLISHED PERFORMANCE.

Wait did you just say something about my rakugo being depressing?

NO, THAT AIN'T IT!

FLICK

I'M GONNA GO NOW!

HM?

Sniff Sniff

THIS SCARF.

IT'S RARE FOR YOU TO HAVE SOMETHING THAT ACTUALLY SMELLS NICE.

IS IT A WOMAN?

IT'S NOTHING.

SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE DOING WELL FOR YOUR-SELF...

YOU GOTTA COME AND PRACTICE!

LET'S DO A SHOW TOGETHER NEXT MONTH! WE'LL PERFORM SOME NEW STORIES!

TRY TO APOLOGIZE TO OUR MASTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, OKAY?

Nammyoho-
rengekyo*

*TN: BUDDIST MANTRA

DON'T WORRY, YOU CAN CALL ME ANYTHING YOU LIKE.

OH, I SHOULD JUST CALL YOU 'MASTER' NOW.

HELLO, YOUNG MASTER.

MATSUDA-SAN.

THE MADAM WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE WANTED TO SEE HIM ONE LAST TIME.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE HE IS.

IT SEEMS SUKEROKU-SAN ISN'T WITH YOU.

I IMAGINE HE'S FEELING VERY DOWN RIGHT NOW FROM HIS WIFE'S UNTIMELY DEATH.

COULD YOU GO KEEP THE 7TH GENERATION COMPANY?

MASTER, I'LL BE FINE HERE.

MASTER.

I APOLOGISE FOR BOTHERING YOU IN YOUR HOUSE AGAIN AFTER SUCH A LONG ABSENCE.

MASTER.

IT'S YOU, KIKUHIKO.

OH.

I THOUGHT IT WAS NORMAL TO HAVE YOUR WIFE BE BESIDE YOU ALL THE TIME.

AND I HAVE TO ADMIT, NOW THAT SHE ISN'T HERE, I FEEL VERY LONELY.

I'M FINALLY ALONE.

I WONDER IF MIYOKICHI IS DOING ALRIGHT.

YOU SHOULD STOP MESSING AROUND AND START A FAMILY ALREADY.

IT'S MISERABLE BEING OLD AND LONELY.

MEN ARE HOPELESS CREATURES.

SLURP

IT'S STRANGE.

WHEN YOU REACH MY AGE, YOU SUDDENLY START TO YEARN FOR THAT KIND OF WOMAN A LOT.

CAN'T I AT LEAST DREAM?

OH, SHUT UP, IDIOT. I HAVEN'T HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH HER SINCE MY WIFE FOUND OUT.

You blockhead!

SHE'S A PERSON TOO, YOU KNOW.

I'M THINKING OF PASSING THE YAKUMO NAME TO YOU.

THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO TELL YOU.

KIKU.

I REFUSE.

AND BY THEN I'M SURE YOU'LL HAVE DEVELOPED YOUR OWN STYLE OF...

IT WON'T BE FOR A WHILE,

I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYONE WHO'LL OPPOSE IT.

I DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF SKILL.

SUKEROKU IS MORE WORTHY.

IT'S NOT YOUR PLACE...

...TO TELL ME WHAT TO DO WITH MY FAMILY NAME.

...JUST HOW MUCH HE YEARNED FOR THE NAME 'YAKUMO',

AND CONTINUED PERFORMING RAKUGO FOR IT.

MASTER, I'M CERTAIN THAT YOU'RE AWARE...

WAS THAT THE REASON FOR HIS EXPULSION?

DID YOU TELL HIM THE SAME THING YOU'RE TELLING ME NOW?

IT CAN'T BE DECIDED BASED ON JUST THAT.

I DO. SO WHAT?

ON TOP OF THAT, HE CALLED MY RAKUGO OLD-FASHIONED AND BORING.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS? HE DENOUNCED THE RAKUGO OF **YURA-KUTEI.**

THAT IDIOT IS A MORAL DEGENERATE.

I'LL **NEVER** BE ABLE TO ENTRUST THIS NAME TO HIM.

BANG!

KIKU-HIKO!

PLEASE, JUST WATCH HIS RAKUGO.

YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHAT KIND OF PERSON HE TRULY IS IF YOU'D JUST...

THAT'S NOT THE POINT...

THAT I CAN'T RECOG-NIZE WHAT GOOD RAKUGO IS AND WHAT ISN'T?!

HUH?!

ARE YOU SAY-ING THAT I DON'T HAVE EYES?

SO, WHAT THEN?!

HAVE A LITTLE FAITH IN ME.

THAT'S WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY.

YOU'RE MUCH MORE WORTHY OF THE NAME OF YAKUMO.

THAT'S BESIDE THE POINT.

...WHAT'LL HAPPEN AFTER I DIE.

I DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT...

HEY.

YOU'RE MY SON.

SO YOU DON'T FACE ANY TROUBLE INHERITING MY NAME.

BUT LET ME AT LEAST DO THIS PROPERLY,

PLEASE, LIFT HIS EXPULSION.

I GAVE HIM A LOT OF TIME.

HE'S NOT A KID ANYMORE.

WHAT HAPPENS IN THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON HIM NOW.

YOU SHOULD THINK THIS MATTER OVER CAREFULLY AS WELL.

IT WOULD BE FOR THE GOOD OF RAKUGO, AFTER ALL.

Clack Clock

I'M BACK!

WERE YOU ASLEEP?

I BROUGHT MORE SAKE.

I JUST RAN OUT.

Good timing!

Oh!

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

QUITTING YOUR JOB...

...IS SO MUCH WORK.

I HAD TO GO AROUND PAYING COURTESY VISITS TO EVERYONE.

I'M SO EXHAUSTED.

I CAN TOTALLY SEE THEM, YOU KNOW?

Can you see 'em?

MFF

I'M LET-TING YOU SEE 'EM.

DOES HE NOT LIKE GIRLS?

KIKU-SAN RARELY LET ME DO THIS.

AFTER ALL, HE'S A HANASHIKA.

HE'S A LECHER TOO.

Ah……

THIN, SMALL AND SWEET...

KIKU-SAN'S LIPS ARE JUST LIKE A GIRL'S.

Smooch

Oooh, I miss him~!

CAN YOU NOT TALK ABOUT HIM WHILE YOU'RE ON TOP OF ME?

IT'S GONNA BRING BACK MEMORIES.

SO IT NEVER COMES TO MIND AGAIN.

HELP ME FORGET,

SURE...

YOU'RE NOT GOOD WITH CLASSY WOMEN, ARE YOU?

THAT'S JUST THE PROFES-SIONAL FRONT I PUT UP FOR KIKU-SAN.

You said you hated me.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE MORE CHASTE THAN THIS.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

IF SOMEONE WANTS ME, I CAN BE ANYTHING THEY WANT ME TO BE.

IF SOMEONE WANTS YOU, HUH...

BUT AS SOON AS THEY DON'T WANT YOU, IT'S OVER.

WHAT?

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT RAKUGO AGAIN?

DON'T.

YOU'LL DRIVE YOURSELF CRAZY.

I'M GOING TO GET US A SIZEABLE AMOUNT OF MONEY SOON.

THEN I'LL BUY US SOME TRAIN TICKETS.

LET'S LEAVE THIS TOWN TO-GETHER.

MY HOME-TOWN IS A GREAT PLACE.

THERE'S A HOT SPRING, SO THERE SHOULD BE LOTS OF JOBS AVAIL-ABLE.

AND, BEST OF ALL, THERE'LL BE NO ONE THAT KNOWS US.

I'M SO EXHAUSTED.

I JUST WANT TO LIVE IN COMFORT.

YOU TOO, RIGHT?

THE BABY, WOULD BE HAPPY WITH THAT TOO.

YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.

ANYWHERE IS FINE AS LONG AS I'M WITH YOU...

KIKU-SAN.

MADAM, WHAT'S THE MATTER?

SORRY TO BOTHER YOU BEFORE YOUR SHOW.

DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE?

DO YOU KNOW WHERE MIYO-CHAN IS?

NO, I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE SPRING.

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

WELL, WE CLOSED DOWN OUR GEISHA HOUSE YESTERDAY.

IT WAS ALSO MIYO-CHAN'S LAST DAY,

AND, WELL, APPARENTLY SHE RAN OFF WITH THE TILL...

WHAT...?!

IF I FIND OUT ANYTHING, I'LL LET YOU KNOW IMMEDIATELY.

TwangTwang TwangTwang

TOTON TON TON

I'm so sorry...

IT'S SUCH A PITY TO HAVE THINGS END LIKE THIS...

BUT THE FACT IS, I DIDN'T REALLY KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HER.

I HIRED HER BECAUSE SHE WAS RECOMMENDED BY THE 7TH GENERATION AND WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A GOOD-NATURED GIRL.

AND HER ROOM IN THE LODGING HOUSE WAS EMPTY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

BUT THE HOME ADDRESS THAT SHE GAVE ME LED NOWHERE,

I SUPPOSE I CAN JUST THINK OF IT AS HER SEVERANCE PACKAGE,

SHIN-SAN?

WELL, COME IN.

NOTHING MUCH.

WHAT'S UP?

LIKE *HELL* I WILL.

TO GO AND APOLOGIZE TO THE 7TH GENERATION.

YOU'VE FINALLY MADE UP YOUR MIND, RIGHT?

I KNOW!

THEN WHY ARE YOU HERE?

I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE YOU ANY MORE MONEY YOU KNOW.

Staaaaaare

WHAT?

H-

H-

H-

H-

HOW DID YOU KNOW?!

YOU'RE WITH MIYOKICHI, AREN'T YOU?

THE SMELL,

I GUESS?

DO WHAT-EVER YOU LIKE.

...IN THAT.

WELL, I CERTAINLY HAVE NO SAY...

Sorry...

SHE'S GOING TO HAVE A KID.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

ACTUALLY... I CAME HERE TO SAY GOOD-BYE.

I'M LEAVING TOKYO FOR SOME TIME.

I CAN'T LET HER BE ALONE.

YOU UNDER-STAND THAT, RIGHT?

SHE WANTS THE BABY TO BE BORN IN HER HOMETOWN, AND...

I WANT TO BE WITH HER TOO.

I DON'T KNOW.

I HAVEN'T REALLY THOUGHT MUCH PAST THAT.

WHAT ABOUT RAKUGO?

WELL, I'LL BE BACK...

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU INHERITING THE YAKUMO NAME?!

YOU CAN HAVE IT.

MASTER TOLD YOU TOO, RIGHT?

YOU'RE HIS PRECIOUS LITTLE BOY, AFTER ALL.

BANG

I'M JUST A STRAY DOG,

I'VE ALWAYS ENVIED YOU.

NOT AN APPRENTICE LIKE YOU!

YOU WERE LOVED AND PAMPERED. OUR MASTER DID EVERY-THING FOR YOU.

GET OFF OF ME!

HIS BACK...

I KEPT GAZING AT IT WITH THIS INDESCRIBABLE ANGER WITHIN ME.

OR JUST PAT HIM ON THE SHOUL-DER.

I COULDN'T DECIDE IF I WANTED TO KICK IT, CLING TO IT,

NOW, HOW-EVER,

...WAS SOMETHING I ALWAYS STRIVED TOWARDS.

creak...

YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.

JUST DON'T QUIT DOING RAKUGO.

I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ANYMORE.

Shouwa
Genroku
Rakugo Shinjuu
Haruko Kumota